General Assembly

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23 March 2004

Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 117 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/58/508/Add.2)*]

58/193. Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing in particular the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[2]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[3] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[3]

Recalling further the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[4] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third[5] and twenty-fourth[6] special sessions of the General Assembly, held, respectively, in New York from 5 to 10 June 2000 and in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Recalling also its resolutions 57/204 and 57/205 of 18 December 2002,

Recalling further Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/23 of 22 April 2003 on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights,[7]

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[3] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[4] See resolution 55/2.

[5] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[6] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[7] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more exposed to external developments, positive as well as negative, inter alia, in the field of human rights,

Realizing also that globalization is not merely an economic process, but that it also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions, which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Realizing further the need to undertake a thorough, independent and comprehensive assessment of the social, environmental and cultural impact of globalization on societies,

Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value that deserve recognition, respect and preservation, and convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind, and aware that the risk of a global monoculture poses more of a threat if the developing world remains poor and marginalized,

Recognizing also that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

Expressing concern at the negative impact of international financial turbulence on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Deeply concerned that the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and within countries, has contributed, inter alia, to deepening poverty and has adversely affected the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries,

Noting that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of human rights and cultural diversity and that, in this regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that, while globalization, by its impact on, inter alia, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

2. *Reaffirms* that narrowing the gap between rich and poor, both within and between countries, is an explicit goal at the national and international levels, as part of the effort to create an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

3. *Reaffirms also* the commitment to creating an environment at both the national and the global level that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty through, inter alia, good governance within each country and at the international level, transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

4. *Recognizes* that, while globalization offers great opportunities, the fact that its benefits are very unevenly shared and its costs unevenly distributed represents an aspect of the process that affects the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries;

5. *Welcomes* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights,[8] which focuses on the liberalization of agricultural trade and its impact on the realization of the right to development, including the right to food, and takes note of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

6. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society to promote equitable and environmentally sustainable economic growth for managing globalization, so that poverty is systematically reduced and the international development targets are achieved;

7. *Recognizes* that only through broad and sustained efforts, including policies and measures at the global level to create a shared future based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and have a human face, thus contributing to the full enjoyment of all human rights;

8. *Underlines* the urgent need to establish an equitable, transparent and democratic international system in which poor people and countries have a more effective voice;

9. *Affirms* that globalization is a complex process of structural transformation, with numerous interdisciplinary aspects, which has an impact on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

10. *Affirms also* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

11. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to continue to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[9] and requests the Secretary-General to seek further the views of Member States and relevant agencies of the United Nations system and to submit a substantive report on this subject to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

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[8] E/CN.4/2002/54.

[9] A/58/257.

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[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/58/508/Add.3)*]

58/194. Situation of human rights in Turkmenistan

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all States Members of the United Nations have the obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and the duty to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Expressing its grave concern about the serious and continuing human rights violations occurring in Turkmenistan,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/11 of 16 April 2003,[1]

Taking note of the recommendations outlined in the report of the Rapporteur of the Moscow Mechanism of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, issued on 12 March 2003,

Noting with appreciation the recent offer of the Government of Turkmenistan to invite a delegation of experts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide technical assistance in the area of human rights as well as the recent visits of the Personal Envoy of the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for Participating States in Central Asia and of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization,

Calls upon the Government of Turkmenistan:

(*a*) To implement fully the measures set out in Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/11[1] and to inform the Commission before its sixtieth session of the steps being taken in this regard;

(*b*) To implement fully the recommendations outlined in the report of the Rapporteur of the Moscow Mechanism of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to work constructively with the various institutions of the Organization and to facilitate further visits of the Personal Envoy of the

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Participating States in Central Asia and of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization;

(*c*) To develop a constructive dialogue with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and to cooperate fully with all the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights;

(*d*) To grant immediate access by independent bodies, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, as well as lawyers and relatives, to detained persons.

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/58/508/Add.3)*]

58/195. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and other international human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that the Islamic Republic of Iran is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[3] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[4]

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, the most recent of which is resolution 56/171 of 19 December 2001, and recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/17 of 20 April 2001,[5]

Noting the commitment made by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to strengthen respect for human rights in the country and to promote the rule of law,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The open invitation extended by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to all human rights thematic monitoring mechanisms in April 2002;

(*b*) The visit of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the Commission on Human Rights to the Islamic Republic of Iran from 15 to 27 February 2003 and its subsequent report;[6]

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[4] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[5] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[6] E/CN.4/2004/3/Add.2 and Corr.1.

(*c*) The visit of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression to the Islamic Republic of Iran from 4 to 10 November 2003 and the scheduled visit of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances of the Commission in February 2004;

(*d*) The recommendation by the head of the judiciary of the Islamic Republic of Iran to judges that they choose alternative punishment in cases where the sentence of stoning would otherwise be imposed;

(*e*) The efforts of the elected Government to foster the growth of civil society;

(*f*) The opening of human rights dialogues with a number of countries;

(*g*) The efforts made by Parliament, in particular the Article 90 Commission, and by the Islamic Human Rights Commission to improve the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

2. *Expresses its serious concern* at:

(*a*) The continuing violations of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

(*b*) The continuing deterioration of the situation with regard to freedom of opinion and expression, especially the increased persecution for the peaceful expression of political views, including arrest and detention without charge or trial; crackdowns by judiciary and security forces against journalists, parliamentarians, students, clerics and academics; and the harsh reactions to student demonstrations, including imprisonment, mistreatment and use of university disciplinary committees against those who participate;

(*c*) The continuing executions in the absence of respect for internationally recognized safeguards, and in particular deplores public executions;

(*d*) The use of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment, in particular the practice of amputation and flogging;

(*e*) The continuing restrictions on free assembly and the forcible dissolution of political parties;

(*f*) The failure to comply fully with international standards in the administration of justice, the absence of due process of law, the use of national security laws to deny the rights of the individual and the lack of respect for internationally recognized legal safeguards, inter alia, with respect to persons belonging to religious minorities;

(*g*) The systemic discrimination against women and girls in law and in practice and the refusal of the Guardian Council to take steps to address this systematic discrimination, noting in this context its refusal, in August 2003, to consider the proposal of the elected Parliament to accede to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[7]

(*h*) The continuing discrimination against persons belonging to minorities, including the Baha'is, Christians, Jews and Sunnis, including cases of arbitrary

[7] Resolution 34/180, annex.

arrest and detention, the denial of free worship or of publicly carrying out communal affairs and the disregard of property rights;

(*i*) The continuing persecution and arbitrary sentencing to prison of human rights defenders, political opponents, religious dissenters and reformists;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

(*a*) To abide by its obligations freely undertaken under the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and other international human rights instruments, including those relating to freedom of opinion and expression, the use of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment and the promotion and protection of the human rights of women and girls, and to continue its efforts to consolidate respect for human rights and the rule of law;

(*b*) To respond fully to the recommendations of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the Commission on Human Rights;

(*c*) To continue to cooperate with United Nations mechanisms, in particular with the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, and to respond fully to their recommendations;

(*d*) To expedite judicial reform, to guarantee the dignity of the individual and to ensure the full application of due process of law and fair and transparent procedures by an independent and impartial judiciary, and in this context to ensure respect for the rights of the defence and the equity of verdicts in all instances, including for members of religious minority groups;

(*e*) To appoint an impartial prosecutor, noting the re-establishment, since December 2001, within the Islamic Republic of Iran of the Office of the Prosecutor General;

(*f*) To eliminate all forms of discrimination based on religious grounds or against persons belonging to minorities, including the Baha'is, Christians, Jews and Sunnis, and to address this matter in an open manner, with the full participation of the minorities themselves;

(*g*) To take all necessary measures to end amputation and public flogging and to pursue vigorously penitentiary reform;

4. *Encourages* the thematic mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights, including the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran, and encourages the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to cooperate with these special mechanisms and to respond fully to their subsequent recommendations;

5. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, paying particular attention to further developments, including the situation of the Baha'is and other minority groups, at its fifty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights.

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/58/508/Add.3)*]

58/196. Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all States Members of the United Nations have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Noting that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a party to several international and regional human rights instruments and to several instruments pertaining to international humanitarian law,

Recalling all its previous resolutions, as well as those of the Commission on Human Rights, on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1493 (2003) of 28 July 2003,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security,

Bearing in mind also Security Council resolution 1460 (2003) of 30 January 2003 on children and armed conflict, and the report of the Secretary-General of 10 November 2003 on children and armed conflict,[3]

Welcoming the Final Act of the inter-Congolese political negotiations signed in Sun City, South Africa, on 2 April 2003,

Taking note of the second special report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo of 27 May 2003,[4] the report of the Security Council mission to Central Africa, 7 to 16 June

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] A/58/546-S/2003/1053 and Corr.1.

[4] S/2003/566 and Corr.1.

2003,[5] the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of 13 February 2003[6] and the report of the High Commissioner on the events of 3 April 2003 in Drodro,[7]

Deeply concerned about the continuation of hostilities in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly in North and South Kivu and Ituri, and the grave violations of human rights and international humanitarian law that accompany them, as described in the above-mentioned reports,

Deploring the impunity that characterizes much of the fighting and the accompanying human rights abuses and humanitarian crises in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The promulgation by the Head of State on 4 April 2003 of the Constitution that is to govern the country throughout the transition, the swearing of allegiance to the new Constitution by President Joseph Kabila on 7 April 2003, the installation on 17 July 2003 of the Government of National Unity and Transition in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the inauguration of the National Assembly and the Senate on 22 August 2003 and the installation of the five transitional institutions on 28 August 2003;

(*b*) The signing on 18 March 2003 of a ceasefire agreement by the Governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda and six armed groups, which paved the way for the convening of the Ituri Pacification Commission from 4 to 14 April 2003 and the setting up of an interim administration in Ituri;

(*c*) The ceasefire agreement signed in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, on 16 May 2003, and the signing on 19 June 2003 of the Bujumbura Commitment by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Congolese Rally for Democracy-Goma and the Congolese Rally for Democracy-Liberation Movement;

(*d*) The abolition of the Military Order Court;

(*e*) The interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[8] and her visits to the country from 26 February to 10 March and from 26 August to 6 September 2003;

(*f*) The visit by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Democratic Republic of the Congo from 12 to 15 January 2003 and the action taken by his Office in the country;

(*g*) The consultations between the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on ways of dealing with the problem of impunity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and takes note of the proposal of the High Commissioner to establish an international body of inquiry to investigate serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law;

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[5] S/2003/653.

[6] See S/2003/216.

[7] S/2003/674, annex II.

[8] See A/58/534.

(*h*) The extension of the mandate, the continuing presence and the increased deployment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in accordance with Security Council resolution 1493 (2003);

(*i*) The collaboration between the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the establishment of national institutions and infrastructures to protect human rights as well as transitional justice mechanisms;

(*j*) The work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Chief of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

2. *Condemns*:

(*a*) The continuing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly in Ituri, North and South Kivu and other areas in the eastern part of the country;

(*b*) The persistence, in the eastern part of the country, of the armed violence and reprisals against the civilian population, especially in North and South Kivu and in Ituri;

(*c*) All the massacres that have occurred in the province of Ituri, particularly the massacres at Drodro, and most recently, at Katchele on 6 October 2003, while supporting the efforts of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to investigate them;

(*d*) The reported perpetration of acts of mutilation and cannibalism in the Mambasa region;

(*e*) The cases of summary or arbitrary execution, disappearance, torture, harassment, unlawful arrest, widespread persecution and arbitrary detention for long periods;

(*f*) The widespread recourse to sexual violence against women and children, inter alia, as a means of warfare;

(*g*) The continuing recruitment and use of child soldiers by armed forces and groups, in particular in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which are contrary to international law;

(*h*) The impunity of those responsible for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, and points out in this connection that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[9]

(*i*) The illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in view of the link between that exploitation and the continuation of the conflict;

[9] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

3. *Expresses its concern* regarding:

(*a*) The breaches of freedom of expression, opinion, association and assembly and the attacks on human rights defenders throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the eastern part of the country;

(*b*) The continued suspension of the moratorium on the carrying out of the death penalty, in particular the death sentences passed on 7 January 2003 by the Military Order Court which had tried the persons accused of assassinating the former President of the Republic;

(*c*) The excessive accumulation and spread of small arms and the distribution, circulation and illicit trafficking of arms in the region and their negative impact on human rights;

(*d*) The increase in the number of refugees and internally displaced persons, in particular in the eastern part of the country;

(*e*) The continued insecurity, particularly in the east of the country in the zones still held by armed groups, which seriously hampers the efforts of humanitarian organizations to gain access to people affected by the worrying humanitarian situation;

4. *Urges* all parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

(*a*) To cease immediately all military activities, including support for the armed groups allied to them, in order to facilitate the re-establishment of the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*b*) To implement fully and without delay both the Bujumbura Commitment of 19 June 2003 and the Dar es Salaam Agreement of 16 May 2003 and to cooperate with the Ituri Interim Administration in overseeing the settlement of the conflict in the north-eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*c*) To continue to respect their obligations as regards the implementation of the Transitional Constitution;

(*d*) To allow free and secure access to all areas so as to permit and support investigations of the presumed serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, with a view to bringing those responsible to justice, and to cooperate fully to that end with national and international human rights protection mechanisms to investigate alleged human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*e*) To put an immediate end to the recruitment and use of child soldiers, which are in contravention of international law and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child,[10] with the understanding that, under the Convention on the Rights of the Child[11] and the Optional Protocol thereto on the involvement of children in armed conflict,[12] persons under the age of 18 are entitled to special protection, and to provide information without delay on measures taken to discontinue such practices;

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[10] *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, vol. II: *Regional Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.XIV.1), sect. C, No. 39.

[11] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[12] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

(*f*) To meet the special needs of women and girls in post-conflict reconstruction as well as to ensure the full participation of women in all aspects of conflict resolution and peace processes, including peacekeeping, conflict management and peace-building, as a matter of priority;

(*g*) To implement all necessary measures to put an end to the widesp. ad violations of human rights and to impunity, in particular with regard to the sexual violence against women and children;

(*h*) To protect human rights and to respect international humanitarian law, in particular by ensuring the safety, security and freedom of movement of all civilians, as well as United Nations and associated personnel, and the unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all of the affected population throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*i*) To prevent conditions that might lead to flows of refugees and displaced persons in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and across its borders and to take and apply all necessary measures to establish conditions conducive to the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons;

5. *Urges* the Government of National Unity and Transition to ensure that the protection of human rights and the establishment of a State based on the rule of law and of an independent judiciary are among its highest priorities, including the establishment of the necessary institutions as reflected in the Global and All-Inclusive Agreement on the Transition in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, signed in Pretoria on 17 December 2002;

6. *Calls upon* the Government of National Unity and Transition to take specific measures:

(*a*) To achieve the objectives of the transitional period as laid down in the Global and All-Inclusive Agreement, in particular the holding of free and transparent elections at all levels, enabling the establishment of a democratic constitutional regime, and the formation of a restructured and integrated national army;

(*b*) To strengthen the transitional institutions and to re-establish stability and the rule of law over the entire territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, thereby returning peace and progress to its people;

(*c*) To comply fully with its obligations under international human rights instruments and, accordingly, to continue to cooperate with United Nations mechanisms for the protection of human rights and further strengthen its cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*d*) To carry out a comprehensive reform of the judicial system;

(*e*) To reinstate the moratorium on capital punishment and adhere to its commitment to progressively abolish the death penalty;

(*f*) To put an end to impunity and to ensure that those responsible for human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law are brought to justice in accordance with due process;

(*g*) To cooperate with the International Criminal Court and to continue to cooperate with the International Tribunal for Rwanda;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to keep it informed of the consultations between his/her Office and the Secretary-General concerning the ways in which to assist the transitional Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in tackling the problem of impunity;

8. *Calls upon* the international community:

(*a*) To support the human rights field office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in order to make possible the effective implementation of its programmes;

(*b*) To support the organization, at the appropriate time and under the aegis of the United Nations and the African Union, of an international conference on peace, security, democracy and development in the Great Lakes region of Africa, with the participation of all the Governments of the region and all other parties concerned, and to support the introduction of human rights and humanitarian issues as one of the main themes of this conference;

9. *Requests*:

(*a*) The Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and a member of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances of the Commission to carry out a mission of investigation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to report to the Commission at its sixtieth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

(*b*) The Secretary-General to give the Special Rapporteurs and the joint mission all necessary assistance to enable them to discharge their mandate fully;

(*c*) The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the technical skills needed by the joint mission to discharge its mandate;

(*d*) The Secretary-General to encourage the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to continue to raise the awareness of and provide training to all Mission staff, including civilian police and military personnel, with respect to the relevant child protection standards, in particular when dealing with child soldiers, and to cooperate closely with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict;

(*e*) The Secretary-General to encourage the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to continue to actively address the issues of gender, the full enjoyment of all human rights by women and the fight to eliminate violence against women and to provide adequate training to all Mission personnel in this regard;

10. *Decides* to continue to examine the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and requests the Special Rapporteur to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

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